

NEWS RELEASE

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FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS STATE PRISONER-LED HEROIN RING

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced today, May 12, 2008, that Michael Carle, Courtney Milligan, Carlos Raul Gonzalez, Shaun Roe and Christine Walters were indicted by a federal grand jury in Anchorage on a charge of conspiracy to distribute a kilogram or more of heroin.

The one-count indictment names Carle, age 29, of Anchorage, Alaska, Milligan, age 26, of Anchorage, Alaska, Gonzalez, age 29, of Anchorage, Alaska, Roe, age 25, of Spring Creek Correctional Center, Seward, Alaska and Walters, age 37, of Mesa, Arizona, as defendants.

According to the indictment, Shaun Roe was serving his sentence on State of Alaska charges at the Red Rock Correctional Center in Eloy, Arizona, when he organized a group of individuals in Alaska and Arizona to ship heroin to Alaska for distribution. Christine Walters was the primary source for the heroin. Michael Carle and Courtney Milligan were two of the distributors in Alaska. Carlos Raul Gonzalez supplied some of the money used to fund the distribution of heroin in Alaska. On January 4, 2008, and on February 4, 2008, federal officers seized packages that had been shipped to Alaska containing over 800 grams of heroin and containing over 20 grams of heroin, respectively. Carle, Milligan, Gonzalez, and Roe are awaiting their arraignments in federal court this week. Walters is a fugitive.

Assistant United States Attorney Stephan A. Collins, who presented the case to the grand jury, indicated that the law provides for a maximum total sentence of life imprisonment and a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$4,000,000, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed is based upon the seriousness of the offense and the prior criminal history, if any, of the defendants. All of the defendants are subject to detention pending trial.

The United States Postal Inspection Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigations conducted the investigation leading to the indictment in this case.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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